

REMARKS

Applicant sincerely appreciates the thorough examination of the present application, as evidenced by the Office Action of January 15, 2008. Applicant particularly appreciates the indication that Claims 2-4 and 15 recite allowable subject matter. Applicant has amended Claims 1-4 and 15-17 as provided above and respectfully submits, for the reasons explained below, that the application is in condition for allowance, which is requested.

A. Status of the Claims

Claims 1-17 are pending. Claim 1 stands rejected under 35 USC 102(b) as anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 6,259,418 to Jones et al. ("Jones '418"). Claims 1, 5-7, 10, 12, 13, 16 and 17 stand rejected under 35 USC 102(b) as anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 6,509,876 to Jones et al. ("Jones '876"). Claims 8, 9, 11 and 14 stand rejected under 35 USC 103(b) as unpatentable over Jones '876 in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,166,694 to Ying ("Ying"). The Office Action also objects to Claim 2.

B. The Objection to Claim 2 Has Been Addressed

The Office Action objected to the term "an irregular shape" in line 2 thereof. Applicant has amended Claim 2 to recite "wherein the irregular shape of the protruding member is L-shaped and/or corrugated." Accordingly, Applicant submits that the objection to Claim 2 has been overcome and requests withdrawal of the same.

C. Claim Amendments

Claim 1 has been amended as shown above, and is submitted to be allowable for at least the reasons discussed below.

Claims 2-4 and 15 have been amended to include all the recitations of their respective base claims, and are therefore submitted to be allowable. Claims 16-17 have been amended to depend from Claim 15, and are submitted to be allowable at least per their dependence on an allowable base claim.

D. Claim 1 Is Allowable Over the Cited References

1. Discussion of the Cited References

Jones '418 discloses in Figures 2A and 2B a retractable antenna 10 for a host electronic device 16. Jones '418, col. 5, lines 6-14. The antenna 10 is mounted on a retractable extension 12 having a ground plane element 14 therein. Id. The antenna 10 can be folded along a hinge 18 from a vertical usable position 10a to a horizontal, storage position 10b. Jones '418, col. 5, lines 17-19.

Jones '876 discloses in Figures 1, 8 and 9 a portable computer 10 with an antenna system 12. Jones '876, col. 6, lines 57-59. The portable computer 10 includes a slot 14 for detachably receiving a communication card 16. Jones '876, col. 7, lines 5-7. The communication card 16 includes a retractable platform 30 with one or more antennas 32. Jones '876, col. 7, lines 56 to col. 8, line 5. The retractable platform 30 including the antennas 21 retracts within the communication card 16. Jones '876, col. 10, lines 9-34.

Ying discloses a built in antenna for a mobile terminal including two spiral conductor arms which are of different lengths and capable of being tuned to different frequency bands. See Ying, Abstract.

2. Claim 1 is Patentable Over Jones '418

Claim 1 stands rejected under 35 USC 102(b) as anticipated by Jones '418. Claim 1, as amended, recites:

1. A card device configured for insertion in a computer, comprising:
 - a housing;
 - at least a first antenna arranged on a support element coupled to the housing, wherein both the first antenna and the support element are arranged within the housing, and wherein the antenna comprises a conductive strip on the support element; and
 - antenna output means coupled to the antenna;
 - wherein the housing comprises a protruding member that protrudes from the computer and that has an irregular shape including at least one portion that is angled relative to the housing; and
 - wherein a geometric shape of the support element is conformed to the irregular shape of the protruding member of the housing including the at least one portion that is angled relative to the housing.

As noted above, Figures 2A and 2B of Jones '418 disclose a retractable antenna 10 for a host electronic device 16, wherein the antenna 10 is mounted on a retractable extension 12 having a ground plane element 14 therein. Accordingly, the antenna 10 of Jones '418 is not located within the retractable extension 12. Thus, to the extent that the retractable extension 12 is considered to provide a housing, Jones '418 does not teach or suggest at least "a first antenna arranged on a support element coupled to the housing, wherein both the first antenna and the support element are arranged within the housing," as recited in Claim 1. Furthermore, Jones '418 does not teach or suggest that "the housing comprises a protruding member that protrudes from the computer and that has an irregular shape including at least one portion that is angled relative to the housing," as further recited in Claim 1. To the extent that the retractable extension 12 of Jones '418 is a protruding member, it has a regular shape that is not angled relative to the housing 16. Nor does Jones '418 teach or suggest "wherein a geometric shape of the support element is conformed to the irregular shape of the protruding member of the housing."

The Office Action cites the hinge 18 as corresponding to the claimed support element. Office Action, page 2. However, the hinge 18 is neither within the retractable extension 12, nor is it conformed to an irregular shape of the retractable extension 12. Finally, the antenna 12 of Jones '418 does not comprise a conductive strip on the hinge 18.

Claim 1 is therefore patentable over Jones '418 for at least these reasons.

Furthermore, Ying does not supply the missing recitations. In particular, Ying does not teach or suggest an antenna comprising a conductive strip that is on a support element that is conformed to an irregular shape of a housing.

3. Claim 1 is Patentable Over Jones '876

Claim 1 stands rejected under 35 USC 102(b) as anticipated by Jones '876. The Office Action asserts that Jones '418 discloses a card device including a housing 20, and an antenna element 32 arranged on a support element. Office Action, page 2. The Office Action further asserts that the housing comprises a protruding member 34 and the support element is conformed to the protruding member. Office Action, page 3. However, the Office Action fails to even allege that the protruding member has an irregular shape, or that the support element is conformed to the irregular shape of the protruding member. In fact, Jones

'876 does not teach or suggest a housing comprising a protruding member with an irregular shape.

Furthermore, Jones '876 does not teach or suggest that the antenna includes a conductive strip that is conformed to the irregular shape of the protruding member of the housing, as recited in Claim 1.

Claim 1 is therefore patentable over Jones '876 for at least these reasons.

Furthermore, Ying does not supply the missing recitations. As noted above, Ying does not teach or suggest an antenna comprising a conductive strip that is on a support element that is conformed to an irregular shape of a housing.

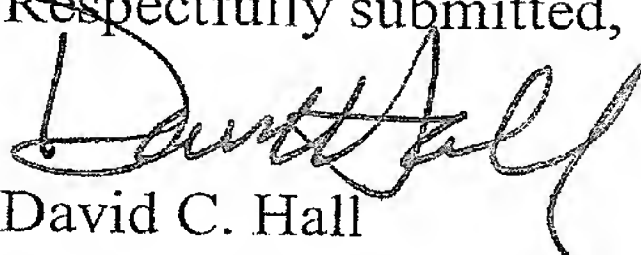
E. The Remaining Dependent Claims Are Allowable

Applicant traverses the rejection of the remaining dependent Claims 5-14. However, as each of these claims depends from a base claim that is believed to be in condition for allowance, Applicant does not believe that it is necessary to argue the allowability of each dependent claim individually. Applicant does not necessarily concur with the interpretation of these claims, nor with the bases for rejection set forth in the Office Action. Applicant therefore reserves the right to address the patentability of these claims individually as necessary in the future.

CONCLUSION

In light of the above remarks, Applicant respectfully submits that the above-entitled application is now in condition for allowance. Favorable reconsideration of this application, as amended, is respectfully requested. If, in the opinion of the Examiner, a telephonic conference would expedite the examination of this matter, the Examiner is invited to call the undersigned attorney at (919) 854-1400.

In Re: Zhinong Ying
Serial No.: 10/554,016
Filing Date: October 2, 2006
Page 10

Respectfully submitted,

David C. Hall
Registration No. 38,904

Customer Number **54414**
Myers Bigel Sibley & Sajovec, P.A.
P.O. Box 37428
Raleigh, NC 27627
919-854-1400
919-854-1401 (Fax)